

Attorney docket # 7331

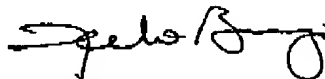
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-12 and 15 remain pending in the application with claim 1 remaining in independent form. Claims 9, 11 and 12 have been amended. Claims 16-20 have been cancelled, Claim 13 and 14 were previously cancelled. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims, as amended, are now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Further and favorable reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account no. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,




Fernando A. Borrego
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment is being facsimile transmitted (703) 872-9306 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on May 6, 2004.


Lori D. DeGiulio

Amend7331-final